



The Struggle with Sin

HELLO

I'm going to start this discussion at the end instead of the beginning. From the wise words of our guest speaker two weeks ago, Jeff Gandy, Paul has revealed this truth to us. *"I can't"* (Romans 1-3), *"God can"* (Romans 4-7), and *"So I am going to let him"* (Romans 8). Reading it may make sense, but it doesn't produce results and change. That's where Paul is leading us. How does the change actually happen? Am I hopeless because it sure feels like it sometimes.

In what part of your life do you feel like you are just spinning your wheels and not getting anywhere?

GROW

Read Romans 7:15-24

I picked this part of the chapter on purpose because it reveals the all too real problem we all face in life. Why can't I get it together and just be faithful?

Are you a rule-follower or more on the rebellious side? (Give an example.)

How do you think the answer to the previous question effects your faith and obedience to God? (Believe it or not, both can be detrimental.)

How would you explain this? *"The law not only reveals sin, it can actually arouse it."* (Feel free to be confessional. There are God's laws and civic laws we deal with every day.)

What is it like for you letting go and letting God (Holy Spirit) change yourself? What about changing others, especially close loved ones?

Close this time by sharing what it's really like in life dealing with the problem Paul talks about in this section of chapter 7. (Be sure to end with prayer. We want to end with hope.)

PRAY

This is our last gathering for the fall season. We just spent some time sharing the trouble of being human and desiring faithfulness. Paul's transparency troubles us greatly and gives us hope at the same time by knowing **our struggle with sin is not abnormal.**

Pray together about letting go and letting God change us. Once we realize we can't do it, then we can truly live free.